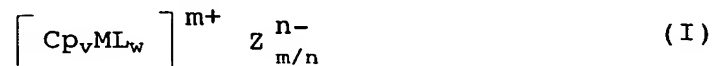


Abstract

A process is described for preparing polyoxymethylene by
 5 contacting a formaldehyde source with a catalyst of the formula I



where

10

M is Ti, Zr, Hf, V, Nb, Ta, Cr, Mo, W, Mn, Re, Fe, Ru, Os,
 Co, Rh or Ir,

15

Cp is a cyclopentadienyl ligand $\text{C}_5\text{H}_{(5-u)}\text{R}^1_u$, where

u is from 0 to 5 and

R^1 is alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, COOR^2 ,
 20 COR^2 , CN or NO_2 , and

20

R^2 is H, alkyl, aryl or aralkyl,

v is 1 or 2,

25

each L is independently a nitrile, CO or a ligand
 displaceable by CO,

w is an integer from 0 to 4,

30

Z is an anion, and

m and n are each independently an integer from 1 to 3.

35

40

45